

Moran Thomas, (651)

Dingmans Ferry
Pike Co., Pa.

Aug 1, 1875-

Aug 4/75.

Encloses money to pay
Williamos bill,

✓

Kingmans Ferry
Pike Co.
Penna
Aug 1st 1875

Recd 2 Augst
Aug 5/75

Mr. W. MacLeod. Curator.
Corcoran Gal.

Dear Sir

Your note enclosing Mr. Williams
Bill was received but a few days
ago as I have been moving about
the country for some time &
have not received letters with
any regularity. Enclosed please
find the sum of Bill, which
please hand to him on first
convenient opportunity. Be
obliged

Yours &
J. Moran

money need - in letter of July 13th

Dear Jack;
Aug 1/75-
Jack; Aug 5/75

Phila, 2 August 2nd 1875

To the Curator of the
Carcaran Art Gallery

Dear Sir,

Enclosed please find
One dollar ~~Aug 20~~ ²⁰ the amt of
Mr. Skitman bill for charges
etc.

Very respectfully

H. St. Moore

Moore A. A. (652)

Phila, Aug 2/75

Aug 3/75:

Encloses \$1.20 amt of
charges on Mr. Whitman's
picture.

✓

Nichols J. Nickle, (653)
British Museum. London

Aug 4/75. July 22, 1875.

Offers a painting, the
"Judgment of Paris" by Rubens
for sale, price 4.000 guineas
perhaps 3000 guineas.

✓

Gallery of Paintings.

4th Rec'd. Aug 4. 1775
ans'd. Aug. 5 1775

W. W. Corcoran, Esq.



Washington, D.C.

United States.

T. Nickle Nichols.

W

I submitted this to Mr. R.
Please accept as handed in by Mr. C.
and say that the Com on works of art
have considered the matter, and have
determined not to make purchases
of the works of the old masters -
or something to that effect. Very
affectionately yours

W. M. Aldrich

affectionately

4 Aug

"Let it be given to the most beautiful."

Egidius Hendriks to D. Jacob Duarte,
a distinguished member of the household of the
King of England; eminent for his encouragement
of the pictorial art, and possessing, among many
things, the original tablet of this; (sixteen hundred²)

Pet. Paul Rubens, painter,
A. Lommelin, engraver

The size of the picture is 6 feet 3 inches by 5 feet 1 inch. There are a few original documents relating to the picture, and many others would be found amongst our national archives. But the picture itself is a sufficient guarantee of its authenticity, which has been attested over and over again by eminent connoisseurs; and it has been declared to be by far the finest Judgment of Paris painted by Rubens, and, in all probability, the original of that subject painted by that master.

Besides the Rubens now offered there are three other undoubtedly genuine paintings by Rubens of the Judgment of Paris. The best known is that which formerly belonged to the Duke of Orleans, now in the National Gallery, London; but of which there is no contemporary engraving as there is in the case

of

Recd Aug. 4/75
Ans'd. " 5 "

653

British Museum,
London.

July 22d 1875.

Dear Sir,

Desiring to offer to one of the galleries in America a very fine gallery picture by Rubens, I applied to General Schenck our American Minister, and he has been good enough to recommend me to apply to you.

The picture in question is the Judgment of Paris painted by Rubens for Duarte, who was jeweller to King Charles the first of England from 1635 to the end of the reign, when he went abroad and was there living

W. W. Corcoran, Esq;
" Washington, D.C.

at



at the end of the Restoration.

Lommelii, the celebrated engraver, a friend of Duarte's engraved this same picture. There are two copies of the engraving in the British Museum (also one in a very early state) and a copy has descended with the painting. The inscription on the engraving runs: "detvr pulcherrime.
" D. Jacobo Duarte nobili domesticio Regis
" Anglie, singulari pictoris artis cultori,
" huic archetypi tabulam inter
" plurima possidenti L. M. D. C. Q. Egidius
" Hendricx. Pet. Paul. Rubbens pinxit.
" A. Lommelin sculpsit."

After Duarte's death, the picture passed into the collection of a nobleman who resided in one of the Northern Italian States cities

d

of the Leguise States. It was bought of this nobleman by Mr. Charles Grignon, a gentleman of great artistic culture, who resided for many years in Italy, and formed during the long Republican war with France, a large collection of paintings by the Old Masters. In 1816-17 Mr. Grignon consigned the Rubens with his other paintings to Mr. James C. C. Bell of the Tuscan Consulate 15 Angel Court, Finsbury-Street London. It was sent from Leghorn to Malta and thence to England, where it was purchased by Mr. Colville, and then by Mr. Freeman Roe of Bridgefield House Wandsworth, London, a connoisseur, and collector of many choice paintings, in whose family the painting has been for upwards of twenty years. Mr. F. Roe gave Guineas 2700 for it. His widow is now desirous of selling it, and she has requested me to negotiate the sale for her.

The

I have the honour to be,

dear Sir;

Faithfully your servant,

T. Nickle Nichols

(Of the establishment of the
British Museum, Principal
Librarian's Dept. Author of
works on the Museum, Reading
room & General Collections; the
London University Catalogue; &c.)

Address:

T. Nickle Nichols
British Museum
London.

653

f the Rubens now offered. Another
is, or was, at Madrid. And another,
very small, is in the Dresden
gallery. But they all differ from me
another, and from Lommelin's engraving;
whereas Lommelin's engraving agrees
in all particulars with the Rubens
now offered. This one contains two
Cupids more than the Rubens in
the English National Gallery; and there
are three satyrs looking over a bank,
which are likewise additional. Paris
has his hat on, and his attitude
differs. Had the present picture been
in the market it certainly would have
had the choice over the one from the Orleans
Gallery

gallery, and for which our government
paid £4000 - some say 5800 £ -

It is in every way a magnificent
picture - deserving of a prominent
place in any National Gallery. It
is, moreover, in capital condition.

The price asked is guineas 4,000 -
but I have no doubt I could, on a speedy
bargain, being concluded, obtain it for
3000 guineas.

If, therefore, you should think of
entering into a negotiation for it,
I should be glad to receive an early
intimation from you, as I am

instructed to sell to the first bidder,
and negotiations have been opened in
Russia and other foreign countries.

I shall be glad to give you every
information in my power concerning the
matter; and to give the ~~utmost~~
facilities to any agent you may be
pleased to employ.

On General Schenck's recommendation
I have also offered the painting to Mr.
August Belmont of New York - in
order to save time. Probably you will
see no objection to interchanging views
with that gentleman on the subject.

(654)

Hoxie R. L.

Engineer's Office D. C.

Aug 4/75,

Aug 4. 1875

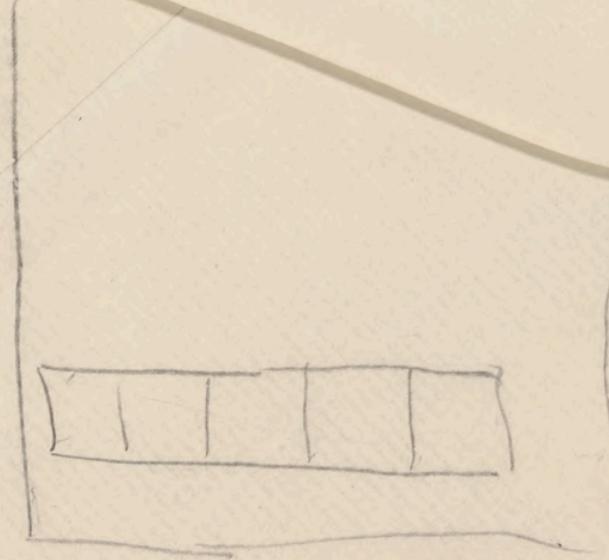
Direct attention to the
encroachment of Building
upon Alley.

Encloses plan of the Alley.

~~Let him know when to do it~~

✓

831



Miss

No. 5443, Vol. E.O., 1875.

6

Engineer's Office, District of Columbia,

Washington, D.C. August 24th 1875.

Recd 11/1/75

To the Trustees of the
Corcoran Art Building.
City.

Gentlemen:

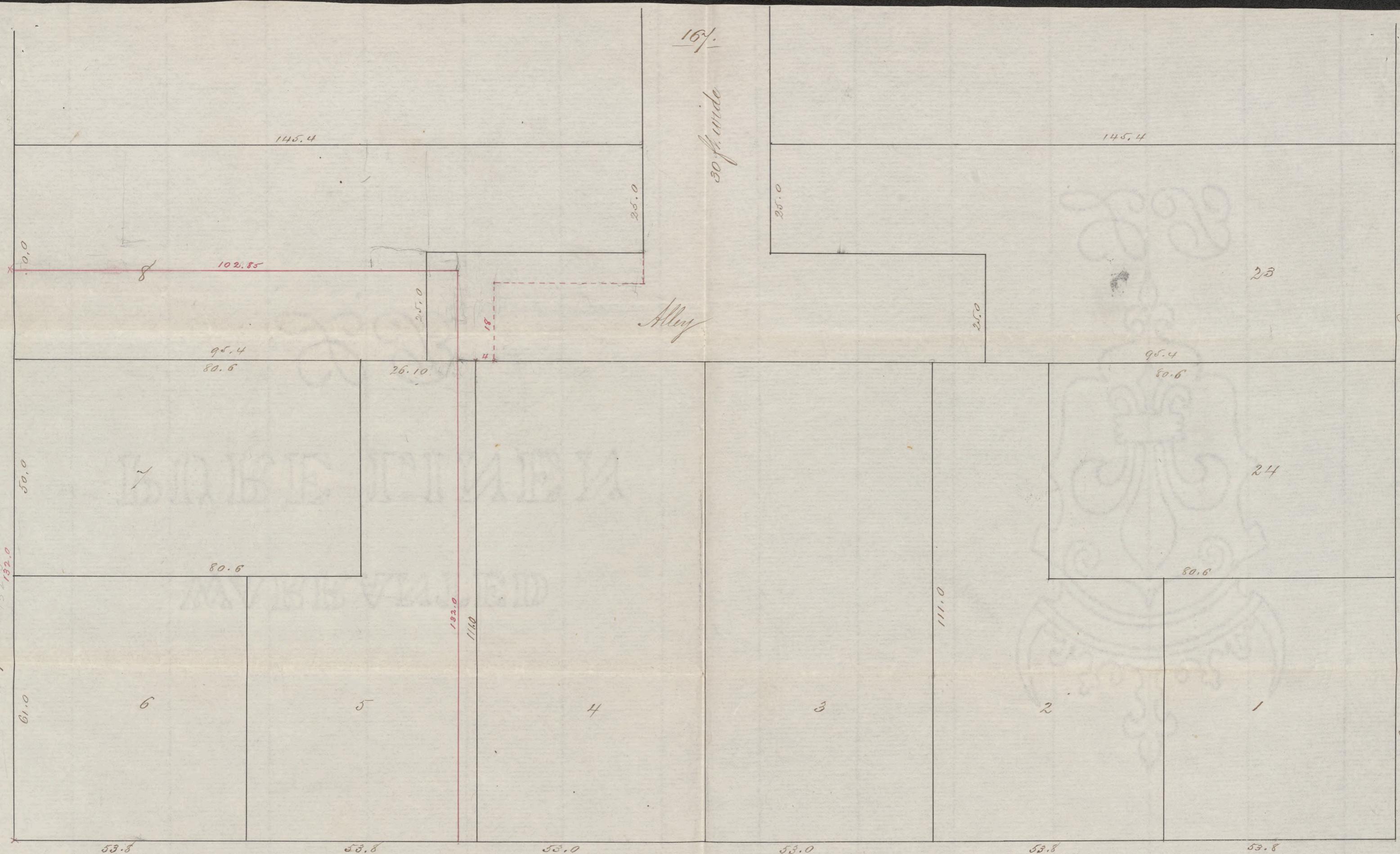
I am directed by the Commissioners of D.C. to invite your attention to the encroachment of your building and fence in the Alley in Square No. 167 and to request that the obstruction be removed at once. I enclose a copy of the plat of the alley.

Very respectfully,

R. D. Hoyt

Lieut. Engineers U.S.A.
Engineer of D.C.

14th Street Park



Solid red line represents the building
Dotted red line " " fence

July 31: 1875
Geo. W. Scott, President
Major Dist. Library

6th Street ~~West~~ ^{50.0} " Jackson Place ^{50.0}

Maguire. Miss M. A. (655)
Balt Aug 6. 1875,

Aug 7/75

Request a copy of the
Photo. of the "Drobec at the
Ford." encloses \$1.

✓

Acad. Aug 7/1855

Cathedral St. Gallo,
Aug, 6th, 1855

Mr. Sargent,
Sir.

I will soon have the
kindness to send you the
Crown at the foot of the
Photograph. And will
post it with blank

Perfect safety.

With regards

It will be to you in Washington
with much

MS.

Shewart, Jos. J.
1422, J. St. Washington
Residence 149 Carrollton Ave. Balt.

Aug: 6. 1875 -
Aug 7/75:

(656)

Authority to have Bust of
Pulaski removed from Capitol
and placed in gallery,

✓

Recd Aug 7/75
Aug 1. " "

No 1422 J. St Washington
Aug: 6" 1875,
Wm. Mac Leod Esq
Curator Corcoran Art Gallery.
Dear Sir

In my letter of
2nd inst, I respectfully declined yr
request to have the Pulaski bust
removed from the Crypt of the Capitol
to your gallery for view by the In-
tress, and exhibition should they con-
clude not to purchase; but a view
of it this morning for the first time
for a year or more shows me that
it is more disadvantageously located
than I thought, and that your suggestion

is a good one. With your permission
I will therefore reconsider my declina-
tion, and authorize you to have the
said bust of Pulaski removed by
Mr Clark the architect of the Capitale
at that expense to us, as stated in
your letter to me, to the Corcoran
Art Gallery, where it will of
course be held subject to an order
should we meet with a purchase
other than your trustee.

Very Respectfully
J. J. Stewart

Attorney for the owner
Mr. H. Kalwanski

P.S. My residence is 149 Carrollton Ave
Baltimore Md.

Walters W. J.

(657)

Balt: Aug 11/75,

Aug 12/75,

The Pinehart things have
not arrived.

Mr MacLeod to order anything
he & Mr Ripp think proper.
Write about the Davis Bus
as soon.

✓

can be got but it
will illustrate middle
age and about that
period —

Why do you
not write at once
to Elthamton for any
explanations you require,

Order any thing
you and Mr Rigg's
desire — but you know
I have never been an
advocate of getting
things merely to fill
up — if there any

Busts you know 'll be
good and interesting
add them — so of any
statue if you know it
to be good — of course
the one you prefer to
be first if you don't
think we have given
sufficient space to the
Parthenon ~~things~~ — you
must remember the
Gallery is for all
time and very soon
room will be the only

I don't say that I
ordered all the fine
busts — I know I did
not — but I did make

on the spot a careful
selection — so do you
and Mr. Tipp and and
I will be perfectly satis-
-fied —

The Lalaaki
must will keep — no
hurting about it if they
refuse to send it —

But by all means
write to Bruce and
about the David Bush
at once

I hope
you find
W. H. Watters

Recd. Yrs
Aug. 12th 75

Balto 11th Aug 75

Mr MacLeod

I was about
when your letter came —

The Rusbart
thing which you asked
had not arrived and
wait for some time

I have not
a list of the costs to
come from Raus's account
hand. I pay until bill
comes — it is always
a small sum exact, what

McGuire & B. (658)
Wilton Aug 13/75:
Aug 16/75:

M^r McGuire thinks
the Busts & Torso should
be purchased.

✓

COCORAN GALLERY OF ART,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Return, if not called for in 5 days.

Baltimore Aug 7. (659)
Balt. Aug 14. 1875;
Aug 16/75.

Has three pictures for
sale.

J

Recd
Ans'd Aug 16/75.

Baltimore
Aug 14th 1875
To the Agent of the Corcoran
Art Gallery

Dear Sir

I have three
very fine pictures for
Sale and was advised
to write to you in regard
to them.

The largest
which is seven feet high
and five feet wide is
The Assumption of the
Virgin which represents
a life size Woman
standing on the moon
with Angels around
her. supposed to be by
Guido Renie. over

The second one is a
"Womans head" in the
Cartoon at the death
of Ananias

By Raphael

Third is the "Repose
in Egypt" By Francisco
Albana.

If you are
buying any pictures
at presents and will
come to Baltimore
I shall take great
pleasure in showing
them to you.

The pictures
are from the collection
of the late Robert
Gilmor purchased
by himself in Europe
and have been in

possession of our family
for about three fourths
of a Century. I will
be most happy to
hear from you ^{and give} any
information in regard
to the pictures

Yours very Respt
J. S. Gilmore

S. W. Cor of Pleasant & St Paul Sts

Wilton "Aug 13^d.

Dear son

Received Aug 16th

Father

Request you to write &
say he thinks the lot
of Bushes & the Tower of
Iris. should be purchased.
& agree with you, as to
the value of the Bushes
for the Gallery. Yours truly

J. B. MacGregor

Mr MacLeod
Curator

Stevens Henry (660)
8th Memin London May 23/75

Relating to the Photographs
of distinguished men.
St. Memin's Engravings.

✓

The Library of Congress, Washington

1, Trafalgar Square

London May 20, 1874

Bought of Henry Stevens for Messrs Geo W. Riggs &c.

St Memin's Volume of 818 Portraits of Americans.

engraved by St Memin in New York, Philadelphia, Burlington, Baltimore, Washington &c. between 1793 & 1812. almost all of them the artists' own proofs reserved for himself. The collection represents the chief persons of the Land, civil & political, Ladies & Gentlemen, including Washington, Jefferson, and many Members of Congress. Arranged and laid down with Index, in a large oblong folio by the Venerable Artist, who on his return to France, was by Napoleon appointed director of the Public Museum of Dijon, which important post he held till 1852, when he died at the age of 82. leaving this Volume to his family. For particulars respecting St Memin See the Memoirs of the Academy of Sciences of Dijon.

400 Guineas. . £ 420. .
10 per cent discount £ 42. .

£ 378. .

Henry Stevens

Mr. Stevens' letters &c.
relative to the Photo's
of distinguished men

3485



Vermont House HENRY STEVENS
13 Upper Avenue Road, NW.
Trafalgar Square, Charing Cross WC

LONDON, March 17 1885

⑥

W. W. Corcoran Esq

Washington, D. C. ^{Dear Sir} ^{for} ^{you}
my dear Sir, ^{of Board}

On the 3^d of January last I wrote to Mr. Undersecretary of State John Davis, informing him, among other things, that I possessed a fine original oil painting of D. Franklin, half length, life size, painted in Paris by Duplessis and presented by Franklin himself in 1782 to his old friend William Hodgeson of Coleman Street, London; and inquired of Mr. Davis if the State Department possessed such an original portrait, or if there was one at the Capitol or in the Corcoran Gallery.

Mr. Davis in reply on the 21st of January wrote me as follows: In reply I have to state that this Department does not possess an original portrait of Benjamin Franklin, and that I am not aware of their being one either at the Capitol or the Corcoran Gallery. I would be glad to know if the interesting painting by Duplessis of which you write, is the same as that which was for some time in the possession of a German gentleman at Dresden."

Since the receipt of Mr. Davis' letter I have been ill and done nothing more in the matter. I now write to

to you to say that the portrait is for sale, and that the lowest net price is 200 Guineas delivered in London, I should very much prefer to have it follow my "Franklin Collection" sold to the Congress for the State Department in 1882 and have therefore by the last post offered to Mr Bayard the pre-emption if he was disposed to treat for it without much delay. At the same time I informed Mr Bayard that I should offer it to you and the Library of Congress, on the same terms.

In case he did not care at once to secure it for the State Department. I sent Mr Bayard a photograph of the picture, the only one I have, but I will try to get another to send you. If you are disposed to treat first, I presume you can see the photo, sent to Mr Bayard, or I will try and procure another for you.

The portrait is in excellent condition, in old carved oak gilt frame, and double plate glass. On the back in an old hand is this inscription "This Picture of Dr Franklin was painted at Paris 1782 & was presented by him to Mr Wm Hodgson of Colman Street as a token of his regard and friendship."

I suppose that you are aware that this William Hodgson was a London Merchant of some literary and scientific eminence. He was a member of Franklin's Club for some years before Franklin left London in March 1775. He was a warm friend of America all through the Revolutionary War, and the two friends, all the time Franklin was in Paris

kept up a friendly correspondence. Hodgson at the instigation of Franklin rendered many important services to the American prisoners in England and distributed among them the funds supplied by Franklin. The story is partly told in Sparks' Franklin, Vol 1X page 15. And in Vol X page 80 is a characteristic letter from Franklin to the President of Congress from Paris 26 Dec. 1783, recommending W Hodgson as Consul in London.

Of all the many portraits of Franklin it is admitted, I believe, that Dupleix's is the best. The artist made several originals or replicas. There can be no question as to the genuineness and authenticity of this. It came into my possession by purchase early in 1882 from W Graves the eminent dealer in pictures and engravings. It is barely possible, but I think hardly probable that it is the same painting as that referred to by W Davis as being famous in Dresden.

This latter, mutatis mutandis, is the same as that sent on Saturday last to Mr Bayard.

Waiting your reply I remain
My Dear Sir. Yours faithfully,

Henry Stevens of Vermont.

818 Heads 4 Trafalgar Square, W.C. London

A.R. Spofford Esq.
Library of Congress, Washington. S 37435
May 23. 1874

£ 1833.30 = 2.08 £ a. m. a. y.

Dear Sir,

By the Scuties of today from Liverpool go two cases, lined with tin, marked numbered and addressed HF#1960 and 1961 Messrs Baldwin Bros & Co. 72 Broadway, New York containing the rare books, as per inclosed large invoice, Numbered from 1 to 144, amounting to A £440.1.0. Also the volume of St Memin portraits (in HF#1961) as per annexed invoice B of £ 420. -- I have also directed Messrs Baldwin Bros send you case HF#1945 as per invoice amounting C £ 115.10. As they are all old books, and duty free except no 49 my Dictionnaire Geographique, illustré. I have directed Baldwin to clear and forward the cases by sea as soon as possible. I have paid insurance and all charges through to New York, leaving Baldwin to collect of you only the clearance & customhouse charges with the carriage paid from New York to Washington. The invoices will, I trust, speak for themselves, but I cannot help commenting upon consideration the extraordinary series of early English Bibles. Mr Fry & I have worked a great deal together of late years. In these volumes you have the results of our united experience. The Books on America are always in demand, and never more so than now. They are going up like balloons.

As to St Memin's portraits, this collection is unique & has attracted great attention here of late in the print-room of the British Museum both as to the quality and exceeding beauty of the engravings, as well as the process by which so exquisite an effect was produced. The portraits were very much admired. There is not a single specimen of St Memin's work in the Museum. St Memin was accustomed to give an original drawing in red chalk, the original plate reduced, and 12 impressions for the moderate sum of \$35. Between 1793 & 1810 or 1812 he produced above 820 of these portraits representing the choice heads of our country at that time. Of course from the nature of the transactions these plates & few impressions were scattered all over the country in other printer's hands. Such a thing as a collection was not thought of till too late. This volume of 818 heads contains a single impression in proof of each plate which the artist reserved for himself stock time & treasured with him about 1812. He was soon after restored to favor by Napoleon and appointed Director of the Public Museum of Dijon

1770

spot which he held till his death in 1851 at the advanced age of 92. Shortly afterwards this collection came into my hands. The price which I place upon it of four hundred guineas (£420.) is considerably more, and many experts here, or reasonable. As it contains portraits of the first families in America, & certainly many distinguished early Members of Congress and the Government, the Library of Congress seems the appropriate place for it. If then you decide to have the Collection you may arrange to pay Mr. Riggs for it. I will write them that it by next mail with duplicate forms &c. leaving them to settle particulars with you. In case you decide not to keep the volume I shall be glad if you will return it to me here with as little delay as possible, through Mr. Baldwin Ross, No. 72 Broadway New York.

I trust I will be £115. 10. will interest you, though some of the sheets may be duplicates. Take what you like and I will at once give directions for the disposal of the lots you do not care to retain. No 5 Horsey's Seeds, is an interesting Memo. having long been in Virginia, in the Fairfax family, & the numerous blank leaves bound in it being used as an *Album Americum*. Among the autographs you will find that of General Washington.

I hope you have not forgotten my two collections of English Pamphlets, the one in five cases sent from Albany in 1869 and the other in 13 cases sent from here in June 1871. I have no doubt you have proposed so far in the examination that you will willingly now reward my patience by paying to Riggs £150. on account. I inclose a bill or invoice, marked D for this purpose. Leave you to arrange matters with Riggs &c. only remanding you that money will be particularly acceptable to me this season.

Lest you may have lost sight of my original invoice of the English pamphlets of 1 June 1871 (3 years ago) I annex a copy of it, and commend it to your consideration.

I venture to dare to send to you enclosed a thin paper copy of my little pocket manual "American Birds with tails to 'em"

It is very imperfect. but has already paid for itself by systematizing my
Bureau "continuations". I have nearly double it in my MS. additions -
I am now doing much more completely "The English Books with titles to em"
or some like such silly name, comprising all the periodicals, Serials, Academic,
Clubs, Societies &c &c in. that any publisher has had to em. or a series
looking after when once you have entered the first name, N. or part. This
list will, I think, amount to about 16,000 titles, a single title to a line, 50 on a page.
Also I have on the arrival a similar one-line list (bulletins in a line, pearl type)
of The American Legal & Legislative Books, including the U.S. and all the States,
probably about 8000 or 9000 titles. Another. The Bibles & tract thereof
in all languages (mixed) in chronological order, with titles, place, printer,
date & size, from 1450 to 1700, in about 15000 lines of 64 letters, 50
lines on a page, nine as little book indeed - but every line full.
How many copies of each will you please fix, at reasonable prices.

Years ago I sold you a copy of Tanner's Jesuit Missions in
Jesuism, Page, 1683. pls. I have just turned up the original print
and it strikes me that it must have come from the copy sold you. If so
please place it where it belongs. I consider it a fine rare.

Hoping to hear from you soon I remain

My Dear Sir

Yours truly

Henry Stevens

Incl last week a note from you
asking for my Ordothea
Geographica, Part II, with geographical
Introduction - It has never appeared
& probably never will in that form.
though I am hammering at the
subject on a side arrival and may let it
appear in some other form - with a my next send you a large

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